

- (vi) Allotment of foodgrains under Annapurna Scheme to indigent old persons.
 - (vii) Allotment of foodgrains to the State Governments for undertaking "Food for Work" and "Greening India Campaign" programmes.
 - (viii) Allotment of foodgrains at BPL rates for development schemes implemented by NGOs sponsored by the State Governments and endorsed by the Administrative Ministry in the Government of India as also by International Organisations like World Food Programme.
- (d) No, Sir.

Formulation of Disaster Management Policy

99. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to formulate a Disaster Management Policy in view of the recurring natural calamities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a Disaster Management Committee was set up to take stock of the Gujarat earthquake; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the action taken by the Committee and the time/report of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Institutional arrangements at the National, State and District levels exist for management of natural disasters. The primary responsibility for undertaking rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures as well as disaster preparedness and mitigation programmes, in the event of natural disasters is that of the State Government concerned. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government. Disaster mitigation measures are reviewed from time to

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time keeping in view the nature, intensity and impact of the natural disasters.

(c) and (d) A National Committee on Disaster Management has been set up by the Government of India on 13th February, 2001 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister having representation of the Presidents of the National and State Level political parties. The National Committee will suggest:

- (i) short-term, medium-term and long-term steps for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction in the earthquake affected areas of Gujarat,
- (ii) Deliberate on the necessary institutional and legislative measures needed for an effective and long-term strategy to deal with major natural calamities in the future,
- (iii) Look into the parameters that should define a national Calamity.

The first meeting of the National Committee was held on 18th February, 2001.

Wholesale Price Index of Copra

100. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) What is the Wholesale Price Index of Copra for the last 12 months from January, 2000 to December, 2000;